THE WOMAN'S

DREADNOUGHT

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A BETTER WAY THAN WAR: By G. T. Sadler, M.A., LL.B.

"Suppose we were to learn that a great movement of feeling and conviction had swept like fire through the lines of those men fighting so valiantly in France and Flanders, so that suddenly yesterday they had all—Prussians, Bavarians, French, Belgian, and British—thrown down their arms: had declared themselves awearied of the killing, and had all alike refused to kill any more, to butcher or mutilate another single human body: had just climbed out of the trenches, gone across to one another, shaken hands, and announced that they were all going home. Would it ever occur to us that they were cowards? Why, we should know that such an act indicated qualities that opened up a radiant future for mankind, had revealed something in human nature of greater hope than all the vast heroisms of all the uncounted wars of savage and civilised alike, that promised something direly needed for the better quality of human society, something that all the military victories that history records have not given to it, and never can."—[Words given by Norman Angell, in answer to a question at Poli's Theatre, Washington, U.S.A., on February 28th, 1916, reported with an Address, in "The Dangers of Half-preparedness," published by Putnam's Sons, 2s. 6d.]

In these words, Mr. Norman Angell (Page) sets out wisdom deeper far than all the intricate selfishness discussed in the Address he gave to the Americans on their policy for the future. Though he would not call himself a Christian, yet he said, "Christ's counsel (as to non-resistance) is so unpractical that if it were adopted it would solve the problem at once."

Be it so.

But why not then go and *teach* this deep wisdom, for which the world is longing, instead of the intricacies of selfish "preparedness"?

As a matter of fact, there is no such thing as *"preparedness."* A nation never gets to it! If it increases its armaments others "go one better," and so it is really the old competition in arms. If any nation thought itself "prepared" it was Germany. Yet it was not prepared, as events have turned out. The less prepared are now conquering Germany! Preparedness is impossible, just as a "balance of power" is impossible. It is a phrase to excuse the tilting of the balance in Britain's favour. So has it ever been. So with a *League to Enforce Peace.* It is only to delay wars, by arbitration. It involves keeping up great armies. It offers an unjust form of arbitration, viz., one based on recognising a *status quo* obtained by past Wars and by this War. The brigands who have got most by fighting, now say: "Anything further you quarrel about must be decided by arbitration!"

No, it will not do. It is an unstable form of peace. Another proposal to save the world from Wars is for *all nations to federate,* have only one Army to keep down any people who begin to arm or quarrel: to have one Parliament, and one Law Court for international affairs. The latter part is excellent. Federation is excellent. But this involves that all nations give up Imperialistic aims, free all peoples they have conquered *e.g.,* Finns, Moors, Tripolitans, Boers and make an open door for free trade to all everywhere: that all disarm, give up military and naval glory, guns and ships, so that only one international army can exist. A great Ideal (except the last point), but being *external,* it is in the air. It has no moral movement behind it. It leaves untouched the cupidity and avarice of men that lead to wars. It offers a scheme to aim at, but does not cut away the disease that is in humanity. A moral change is needed.

A new life-principle.

A recognition of the fact that service is man's law of life, and security, and sufficiency, and inner and outer freedom come by men's service to the world, indirectly and unsought.

Christianity must now be tried!

Where individuals have acted on it, and met evil men by unarmed Goodwill, wonderful have been the results! Read the lives of St. Francis, Chalmers, Penn, Pennell (N. India), Moffat, Livingstone, Miss Slessor (in Calabar, W. Africa), the Doukhobors (freed politically by transference from Russia to Canada).

There is no escape from the Moral Law.

If the world refuses the Way of Illimitable Goodwill (that kills none), there will be *no safety in external organisations.* There will be more wars each more horrible than the last.

Even *a great Victory* will not bring security! Oh, the callous manner in which it is now advocated and prepared! *The Illustrated London News* gave recently large photographs of a British shell factory covering many acres, full of large shells, thousands of them ready to blow men, our fellow-men (who never made the War) to pieces! Why are the Governments and Press saying the War must go on? Mr. Long (Colonial Secretary) has said that the African Colonies are not to be returned to Germany. Russia has said the Allies agreed a year ago that Constantinople should be given to Russia. Italy demands Dalmatia, and France Alsace-Lorraine without consulting the inhabitants. *Germany must now be beaten so badly as to agree to these aggressions.* So the War must go on, for territory! For this end our lads never enlisted. Yet for this end they are to be reduced to masses of mere flesh! When such a "Victory" is "won," with the aid of the brutal blockade, as cruel to non-combatants as U-boats, then will come the Great Peace!

It will be no peace, only unstable exhaustion for a time!

Who knows who next may burst out, perhaps Russia or even America, if she goes on as she is doing, seeking the largest Navy, but one, in the world!

In the face of these tremendous *forces of fear*—what are we to do?

Fear not!
Have faith!

Have faith in the deep forces of God, the forces of Goodwill that hears evil, but does not do it! We can overcome evil with good! Spread this truth of life! Write of it to your M.P., and to the Press. Be a light in the world! Teach it to your children! Dare to witness for an illimitable unarmed Love which now alone can save the distracted races of men.

MONTESSORI AT THE "MOTHERS' ARMS."

THE ROSSENDALE ELECTION

Mr. Albert Taylor, the Rossendale Peace candidate, is, as all the world knows, a conscientious objector, and is now in the hands of the military authorities. He was born and bred in the Rossendale Valley. He is a Socialist of sixteen years' standing, a member of the Rawtenstall B.S.P., and for ten years has been secretary of the Rossendale Boot, Shoe, and Slipper Operatives Union. He has been a student at the Central Labour College, and has worked actively in promoting the educational side of the Labour movement.

Here is a copy of Mr. Taylor's election address:

TO THE ELECTORS OF ROSSENDALE.

PEACE BY NEGOTIATION.

I stand for "Peace by Negotiation." This does not mean "peace at any price," but a peace which will leave to each nation, small and great, independence and freedom of development, and will pave the way for a "League of Nations" to guarantee the world against another War.

There is far more chance of obtaining such a peace by early negotiation than by encouraging the idea of a fight to the last shilling and the last drop of blood.

If this policy is not adopted, we are informed that the present slaughter may have to be continued for another two years—with the certainty of the peace being brought about by negotiation after all.

It is this great issue which has caused me to respond to an invitation from a large body of electors to contest this election.

INDUSTRIAL CONSCRIPTION.

Notwithstanding the clearest and most solemn pledges, Industrial Conscription is already in operation, with its evil consequences. It is now suggested that it may have to be extended to every home and factory. This is a proposal which I would combat to the utmost of my power. In view of the fact that the conscription of flesh and blood is with us, while those who seize the opportunity to make huge profits out of the nation's need are allowed to do so, I stand for the Conscription of Wealth.

SHALL THIS WAR END WAR?

I am opposed to the policy of a commercial war being continued after this War is over. It would mean perpetuating the most fruitful cause of modern wars: and locally we have to consider that, without serving any useful purpose, it would also mean putting on tariffs which would seriously injure, and might ruin, the chief Lancashire industries.

PENSIONS AND ALLOWANCES.

In far too many cases disabled and discharged soldiers and their dependants have been treated, as regards pensions and allowances, in the most disgraceful manner. I am for the sweeping away of this scandalous treatment of those who have risked their all.

ADULT SUFFRAGE AND IRELAND.

Among matters of immediate importance, I am in favour of

(1) Adult Suffrage for men and women.
(2) The solution of the Irish difficulty on democratic lines, and not by the imposition of hateful militarist methods.

A WORKER FOR THE WORKERS.

As a Socialist and a worker, and a believer in the principles of Internationalism, and as one who is intimately acquainted with your needs and interests, I suggest that the reasons which justify Labour representation are even stronger to-day than in ordinary times.

For the above reasons, I ask you to support me on the polling day.

(Continued on page 671, col. 1.)

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STARVATION!

Is it all to come falling down like a house of cards? The gratitude of the women: "Wilson kept us out of the War"; the great democracy, too proud to fight, the new world that will not stoop to the barbarisms of the old; the lofty speeches, the fine care for humanity—are these but wind?

Before the War every great Power had its submarines. "'The Times' History of the War" tells us that in August, 1914, Great Britain had 52 submarines, France 50, Russia 12, whilst Austria had 24 submarines and Germany had officially 27, though "The Times" thinks she had more. As compared with her battleships, British submarines were few, but this was not because the organisers of the British Navy considered the use of the submarine inhuman: it was because they believed that the Dreadnoughts and super-Dreadnoughts would do more damage to the foe. "'The Times' History of the War" says: "In *material* Germany had from the beginning been content to imitate British types."

In "The Review of Reviews," of August, 1914, published before the War, the Editor said:

"The inspection of the Fleet by the King would be memorable if only for the character and number of the fighting units assembled at Spithead, a Fleet representing an expenditure of £700,000,000 since 1893, as calculated by Mr. Percival Hislam in the "Daily News." The presence of the seaplanes, aeroplanes, and the submarines gave the occasion special significance, and is an intimation to the world that *those responsible for the British Navy cannot afford to neglect any device which mechanical science places at their service for the defence of British interests.*" (The italics are ours.)

When War broke out the British Navy was in fact larger than the combined Navies of all the other Powers; therefore, the September, 1914, issue of the "Review of Reviews" was able to report that:

"In ten days the Navy had swept the German mercantile marine off the seas, and had made the ocean as secure for English trade, practically as it was before the War."

"'The Times' History of the War" says that in three weeks, not only was German maritime commerce "paralysed" and British commerce "fast returning to normal conditions," but British commerce was "already seeking new realms to conquer—realms left derelict by the collapse of the maritime commerce of the enemy." The War was actually increasing the profits of merchants' and shippers: their accustomed trade was unhindered and they were snatching the markets from which they had ousted the enemy.

All this was not accomplished by the use of submarines, for though, to quote "The Review of Reviews," "those responsible for the British Navy cannot afford to neglect any device which mechanical science places at their service for the defence of British interests," the use of the submarine was unnecessary, and would have been less profitable than the procedure adopted. When a nation has an enormous preponderance of battleships it need not skulk under-seas to waylay a poor merchantman. No, its battleships are able proudly to order the merchantman to accompany them into port in order that it may be retained with its cargo as a prize. Says "The Times" history:

"Prize Court notices of German and Austrian merchantmen captured on the seas or seized in our ports appeared daily in increasing numbers in 'The Times.'"

But the British Navy had not merely driven German and Austrian merchant ships from the seas: it had also put an end to neutral commerce with Germany, and had barred German ports to neutral ships. An article in "Financial America," of August 24th, 1914, says: "No shipments can be made to Germany." "The Times" history deals with the matter very candidly. It quotes an article from "Vorwärts," of August 20th, 1914, which states that "if the British blockade took place" imports into Germany of £300,000,000 and exports of £400,000,000 would be interrupted and shows that a large proportion of the imports is from the United States, for instance, £23,100,000 worth of cotton, £15,000,000 of copper, £8,250,000 worth of wheat, and £5,600,000 worth of lard.

The "Vorwärts" article says, "if the British blockade took place," but "The Times" history adds:

"The British blockade of Germany was taking place at the moment these words were written, though it was not called by that name for reasons which need not here be examined."

Thus, though it was not until March 11th, 1915, that Britain publicly announced that all goods going to and from Germany would be intercepted, it appears that the British blockade of Germany began at the outbreak of War. Neutral trade with Germany and Austria was then cut off, except in so far as it could be carried on unnoticed, by shipping goods to persons in neutral nations who would transport them to the enemy countries. To prevent this surreptitious trading Britain put the neutral nations on enforced rations, allowing them to import rather less of every commodity than they used for home consumption before the War. This rationing of the neutral nations has caused scarcity and hardship to their inhabitants. The blockade is an old war practice, but the rationing of neutral nations has never been attempted before. Presumably it is only the fact that the neutral nations upon whom it has been practised are too weak to resist the might of Britain and her Allies, which has induced them to submit. America, the one neutral nation powerful enough to offer formidable resistance, has not been rationed. Her geographical situation has rendered it unnecessary for the British authorities to consider the advisability of taking the step; but what would have happened if America had been Germany's next-door neighbour? The interference with a nation's home supplies of food and necessaries is surely an even more serious blow at her dignity and the material welfare of her people than the stoppage of her overseas trading.

From the first days of the War British newspapers published sad tales of starvation in Germany and Austria, whilst the politicians and Press assured us day by day that before long the Allies would win the War by starving out their "enemies." The reports, even in the early days, were easily credited in this country, for though our Navy remained supreme, food prices rapidly rose to famine height. But in this country there was no scarcity: our only difficulty was that British shippers and merchants were causing poor people to go hungry in order that they might increase their profits. The hunger of the German populace also was due, in part at least, to the rapacity of German traders. But now that War has continued for two and a half years the drain upon the human and material resources of the Central Empires must be making itself felt. The War of Attrition is slow, but it is taking its toll from every country, and by this time undoubtedly the peoples and Governments of the Central Empires must see rising up before them the terrifying possibility of being overcome by the overwhelmingly superior numbers and resources which oppose them on both fronts.

When the Central Empires proposed peace negotiations the fact was hailed here as a sign of their inability to continue fighting.

The British reply was, in effect, No, we will not negotiate: we will starve you out! The German reply is: We will starve you. The "fight to a finish" school in Germany has long urged a more pitiless use of the submarine. The British refusal to negotiate marked the triumph of the "fight to a finish" school in this country: by its truculent attitude it has secured the triumph of its German equivalent.

Therefore the German Government has answered: You have blockaded us: we shall blockade you. Your Navy outnumbers ours so enormously that you are able to keep our battleships in port; but *we "cannot afford to neglect any device which mechanical science places at" our "service for the* defence of German "interests." We shall therefore carry out our blockade by means of the submarine. It is unfortunate that we cannot retain the prizes which our sailors capture: the cargoes of food, fuel, and munitions would be most useful to us; but as your ships are able to stop us from bringing our prizes into port, we are obliged to send them to the bottom. So speaks the brazen voice of Militarism, which now dictates the policy of every belligerent nation.

When the British blockade barred neutral ships from German ports, when American trade with the Central Empires was cut off, and trade with the European neutrals was hampered and reduced comparatively little protest was made. The affront to American dignity could be tolerated, because trade with the Allies was rapidly increasing, and American traders, also, were eager to seize the markets from which the merchants of the Central Empires had been expelled. But the prospect of losing practically all the European trade has aroused so much indignation that President Wilson has severed diplomatic relations with Germany. He appears to have thrown aside the role of moderator. Unless the situation be speedily reversed by some magnetic stroke of genius, the high destiny of peace-maker in this world-tragedy and of guiding spirit in building a lasting partnership of the nations can never fall to his lot. No man who has incurred blood-guiltiness by plunging his nation into war can win the universal confidence necessary to such an office.

When the German Government announced to America that sea traffic would be prevented, by all weapons, in zones encircling the Allied nations, narrow channels only being left through which neutrals would be allowed to pass under strict conditions, President Wilson replied that submarine warfare against passenger and freight-carrying vessels was contrary to international law, and that unless it were discontinued America would break off diplomatic relations with Germany. Unfortunately for the reputation of international law and The Hague Conference, submarine warfare can claim their tacit sanction. In the war between Russia and Japan the Russians sowed the Far Eastern seas with mines, as German submarines are now sowing the "barred zones," and when the question was raised at The Hague Convention of 1907 the Convention declined to discuss it.

The German reply to President Wilson was that the Imperial Government would assist in preserving the freedom of the seas if the operations of War might be confined to the fighting forces of the belligerents and if merchant vessels might go their way unhindered. This would mean, of course, the raising of the blockade. The German Government claimed the American Government as a supporter of the freedom of the seas idea, and it is true that American Governments have supported it at Hague Conferences, whilst British Governments have opposed it, thinking their enormous Navy would assure command of the seas.

But President Wilson refused to bargain; he not only threatened that America would join the War against Germany, but he issued a call to the other neutral nations to join him. Mars has again won the day: another great nation is "rattling back to barbarism."

So we appear to be entering upon a new phase of the War, and it is as difficult to foresee what this phase will mean to us, as it was to foresee what War would mean whilst we yet hoped that peace might be preserved. Everywhere the horrors of War are becoming accentuated, and those of its features which appeared to be chivalrous or disinterested shrink into the background. Mr. Walter Long has announced that the German colonies, which cover 750,990 miles, shall never return to German rule: therefore the claim that Britain does not seek to win territorial gains cannot again be made.

We learn that a vast new British minefield, 230 by 170 miles at its widest, has been established between the coast of Denmark and the East Coast of England. Do not forget that this minefield is another "barred zone." The "Manchester Guardian" says that the Governments of Holland, Denmark, and Norway object to this minefield, and that neutral ships will have to make long detours to avoid it, "but it cannot be helped." Yes, yes, that is what all the belligerents say. It matters not to them that the people of neutral nations are hungry. In Holland the Government distributes brown beans to the starving poor, and women, waiting for hours outside the depôts in order to secure a portion, faint from exhaustion.

In this country the tide of want is rising. For the last fortnight there has been a very serious scarcity of milk in many East London districts. Our own Mother and Baby Clinics have suffered with the rest; one of our milkmen has been unable to deliver any milk on some days, on other days only half the quantity. Coal, too, is scarce. Women with perambulators walk miles from shop to shop trying to get coal. Bricks made of coal dust were sold at four a penny before the War: they always formed the extravagant economy of those very poor people who are only able to buy in small quantities. Now these bricks are sold at eight for sixpence, and on many days this is the only fuel to be bought, and there is a scarcity even of that.

The Food Controller asks us to restrict ourselves to 4 lb. of bread per person per week, to 2½ lb. of meat, and ¾ lb. of sugar, but masses of people cannot afford to buy that amount. Poor people in Bow are being told by the shopkeepers that they must buy half a crown's worth of tea and coffee before they can have a pound of sugar.

Mr. Neville Chamberlain's National Service scheme, which is voluntary now, but will soon be compulsory, will not preserve our people from the sharp pinch of hunger at present prices. The minimum wage is to be 25s. a week, and only 3s. 6d. a day for four weeks is to be granted to those who are thrown out of work in the course of the Government's arrangements and re-arrangements.

Matters are going from bad to worse. Sea warfare of a more awful kind than any previously known to history is threatening the sailors both of the Navy and the mercantile marine. Starvation and coercion threaten us at home. Why not negotiate? When will the people insist on the steps being taken which shall make it possible to end the War?

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

WHAT ABOUT THE VOTE?

SAYINGS ON THE SPEAKER'S CONFERENCE REPORT

"Before the readers of your excellent paper form their conclusions I should be glad of the opportunity of pointing out that no woman is to have a vote unless she, being unmarried, or if married, her husband, be on the Local Government Register. Neither she nor her husband can be on the Local Government Register unless she or he has occupied 'as owner or tenant' (s. 31a of the Report). It has been decided that the word 'tenant' in the existing Franchise Acts does not include a lodger; consequently all women who, or whose husbands, are lodgers will remain unenfranchised. Therefore it will still be necessary to determine whether the occupier be a 'tenant' or a 'lodger.' Thus, local party organisations which desire to keep women off the register will contend that they are lodgers, and those which desire to have them on the register will argue that they are tenants, and we shall have a repetition of proceedings such as 'Kent v. Fittal,' the result of which was that thousands of men were deprived of the franchise on such technical points as the possession or non-possession of a 'latch-key,' or the presence or absence of a bolt to the front door. If this be the position, we shall have registration agents and party organisations wrangling over these points before the registration officers, in the county courts, and possibly also in the higher courts. After all these years of struggle for the franchise, cannot we now, by extending the spirit of compromise, obtain one register both for Parliamentary and Local Government purposes, and thus not only simplify the procedure and save expense, but, above all, secure to every man and woman, subject to the residential qualification, and subject (if it must be so) to the age-limit in the case of women, the right of every citizen to take part in the work of national and local government."—Yours obediently, Samuel Lithgow, in the "Westminster Gazette."

* * * *

Mr. W. H. Dickinson, in "The Nation," recommends the women's franchise proposals of the Speaker's Conference on the ground that they would probably enfranchise six million women, half the adult women. But we want *all* the women to have votes!

* * * *

"The effect on the number of women voters would probably be to reduce them to about 4,000,000, or just about half the number of the men now on the register."—"Manchester Guardian."

* * * *

"I am loath to criticise when fate has ordained that women are powerless to suggest.

"If men consent to women having the vote now, it will be, undoubtedly, because of our War work. Now the age limit of such work is 35-40. If, then, the vote is only to be given to those above 35-40, the result will be to disfranchise those whose conduct has won the battle!

"Again, a male university voter gains his vote when he is 21 by his university qualification. A female voter, gaining her vote at the same age, must wait 14-19 years before exercising it. Why?

"Poor womanhood! Either too old to work or too young to vote!

"Or is it rather poor manhood? Too hopelessly prejudiced to recognise an educational standard or common sense."—Flora Annie Steel, in the "Daily Mail."

* * * *

"As to what that age should be there was a difference of opinion, the majority favouring a later age—30 or 35—for women. There is no reason to suppose that women would accept the suffrage subject to such an indignity, and it all comes back to the question whether the voting power shall be predominantly feminine or exclusively masculine.—"The Church Times."

* * * *

"You can hardly have a property basis for the women's vote and a flesh and blood basis for the men's. You cannot maintain so wide an age-space between the man and the woman voter as 21 and 30 or 35, the one marking the end of the educational period for the best-trained male minds in the nation, the other going far beyond it, and post-dating by years the average period for marriage and full settlement in life."—"A Wayfarer," in "The Nation."

* * * *

"By what grotesque working of the political mind has the conclusion been reached that the welfare of the community can only be safeguarded by the exclusion of women from the human commonwealth until they have attained the age of 30 or 35 years? . . . Remembering the franchise extensions of 1832 and 1867, one is staggered at the recklessness of our aristocratic forefathers, who flung the interests of the State to the mercy of a working-class electorate outnumbering them by hundreds per cent. No less is one amazed at the daring of the Protestants of this country, who delivered Ireland up to the overwhelming rule of the Catholics in 1827. . . ."—Mrs. Pethick Lawrence in the "Daily News."

* * * *

"The man who is good enough to fight for his country is good enough to vote in it. The development from this point to manhood suffrage can hardly be regarded as revolutionary. Plural voting is condemned—another foregone conclusion, and quite irresistible when the change is accompanied by redistribution. . . . For our own part, as we have said before, we have always regarded Woman Suffrage as one of the changes which are inherent in the circumstances of the war, . . . We doubt very much whether there is any great hostility left in this country to the principle of Woman Suffrage. Its advocates are almost forcing an open door. The practical problem is to devise a form of franchise which will as far as possible meet with general consent. . . ."—"The Times."

W.S.F. LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER

Sir,—We regret that the Speaker's Conference has failed to recommend complete equality of voting rights either as between man and man, woman and woman, or men and women.

We are entirely opposed to the proposal to force women to wait for enfranchisement till 30 or 35 years of age, and desire to point out that this age limit would in itself, apart from other restrictions, bar out two-thirds of the women who, in normal times, are engaged as wage-earners. At the census of 1911 2,699,365 women between 20 and 35 were classed as wage-earners, and only 792,025 women were classed as wage-earners between 35 and 65.

This age barrier would, moreover, bar out large numbers of married women during many of the years in which they most need the power and protection of the franchise, *i.e.*, whilst their children are still very young.

The proposal to retain a separate Local Government franchise is highly unfortunate from the standpoint of securing a simplified franchise and the compilation of one set of voters' lists instead of two. More important is the fact that the proposed municipal franchise is most undemocratic and amongst other serious defects excludes the vast majority of married women.

It is still more unjust to put up both the property barriers of the municipal franchise and an age barrier of 30 or 35 against the woman Parliamentary voter. These barriers will operate most harshly against unmarried and widowed women, who form the poorest sections of the community.

The working-class widow, left with a little family to bring up, needs the protection of the vote more, if possible, than anyone else. In the majority of cases she is a lodger, not an occupier, and would be unable to qualify under the proposed terms. The pauper disqualification which it is proposed to retain would bar out numbers of widows who are obliged by the universal customs of underpaying women to accept out-relief or to place some of their children in Poor-law schools.

We are of opinion that the proposed qualifying period should be shortened, and, as it is suggested that the soldier or sailor should be able to qualify by a month's residence, we urge that the same arrangement should apply to all men and women.

We are opposed to the retention of plural voting in any form, and we confidently hope that the Government will substitute for the present complicated and unsatisfactory proposals a measure establishing complete manhood and womanhood suffrage.

E. Sylvia Pankhurst, Hon. Secretary.
Barbara Tchaykovsky, Hon. Treasurer.
Norah L. Smyth, Hon. Fin. Secretary.
Minnie Lansbury, Hon. Assist. Sec.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Resolution passed by the Executive Committee of the Women's International League, Thursday, February 1st, 1917:—

"The Women's International League notes with satisfaction that the Speaker's Conference, appointed to consider the whole question of electoral reform, has acknowledged the principle of the enfranchisement of women, a principle recognised by the House of Commons more than 20 years ago and reaffirmed many times since then. We deplore any proposal which would exclude the young industrial and professional women, and we reaffirm our conviction that the only satisfactory solution of this question is equal suffrage for all men and women."

WOMEN'S LABOUR LEAGUE

The Women's Labour League has addressed the following letter to the Prime Minister:—

Dear Sir,—I am instructed by the Women's Labour League to express to you their satisfaction that the Speaker's Conference has recommended the extension of the franchise to women.

At the same time, I am desired to say that they are in deep disagreement with the proposal to extend it only to women who have reached the age of 30 or 35, or some other age higher than that of the qualifying age for the male voter.

They are of opinion that any such proposal would be unjust and would meet with strong resentment amongst women of all ages. It would tend to exclude from voting rights the great majority of the women who are employed in industry and create a sense of unfairness and of degradation that their fitness to take part in the tasks of reconstruction should be considered as so inferior to that of men of less years than themselves.

They further desire to draw attention to the injustice of not including women lodgers on the register, thus differentiating against a large number of women workers.

They urge the Government and Parliament to set aside this proposal to institute an age qualification for women different from that for men and to adopt in its place the far simpler method of establishing adult suffrage for both sexes.—I am, yours very truly, Mary Longman, *Gen. Sec.*

THE NORTHERN MEN

The National Executive of the Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage has written to the Prime Minister declaring the age limit of 30 or 35 to be "an insult to the women of this nation who have proved themselves up 'to the hilt' as fit to vote at the age of 21 as are the men." They continue: "We claim that a Government cannot put women in the shipyards, on the land, or behind the guns at the age of 21 and deny them a vote in return. Also we believe there exists a high order of feminine intelligence in less manly occupations than those above mentioned which should be articulate at 21, if man's is to be articulate. . . . We shall be glad to hear that you will consent to receive us in deputation. The Nothern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage is an organisation of voters, magistrates, councillors, and responsible citizens, and has strong branches in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Berwick and Manchester.—M. Arncliffe Sennett, *President N.M.F.*

THE N.C.A.S.

The National Council for Adult Suffrage stands for the complete enfranchisement of every adult man and woman, and, whilst regarding the Report of the Speaker's Conference as a step in the direction of this national franchise, is naturally disappointed that its recommendations fall short of it.

TEACHERS' FRANCHISE UNION

Teaching in all grades of schools is passing more and more completely into the hands of women, to whom will be entrusted the duty of teaching citizenship to the future voters, male and female. Yet, if the Electoral Reform Committee's recommendations be adopted, almost the whole of these women teachers will be debarred from exercising the rights of citizenship themselves. Inconsistencies such as this (there are others, of course, as in the case of doctors, nurses, munition workers, &c.) will surely be noted and rectified.—L. Cutten, L.L.A. Press Secretary, Women Teachers' Franchise Union.

FREEDOM LEAGUE

The "approval" of the Speaker's Conference by a majority vote on the principle of Woman Suffrage is at least a generation behind the times. The House of Commons "approved" this principle in 1870 by a majority of 33, and six times since that date it has passed the second reading of a Bill for Woman Suffrage. Before the War more than 180 Town Councils in this country "approved" the principle by a majority vote, and urged the Government to pass some measure of women's enfranchisement without further delay. Woman Suffrage has to be decided by the House of Commons, and for this reason the Women's Freedom League has urged Mr. Lloyd George to include a measure providing for Votes for Women on the same terms as men in the King's speech.

UNITED SUFFRAGISTS

The Committee of the United Suffragists objects that "the proposal to retain the occupancy vote in Local Government elections would in effect limit the men's Local Government franchise in order to provide a register which could be used to limit the women's Parliamentary franchise. In addition, this proposal would necessitate the setting up of a double register for men, and would not even obviate the same necessity in the case of women, supposing that the suggestion of a different voting age for women in Parliamentary elections were adopted—to say nothing of the new fancy franchise thus unnecessarily introduced." They urge the introduction of a simple and generous franchise measure drafted on the adult suffrage basis, both for men and women."

A TIMID STATEMENT

Resolution sent to the Prime Minister, February 5th, 1917 by Consultative Committee of Constitutional Women's Suffrage Societies:—

"We, the undersigned, representing different Women's Suffrage Societies, heartily welcome the recommendation of the Speaker's Conference that Women's Suffrage should be conferred.

"We are unanimously of opinion that this recommendation should be carried into effect at once, and we therefore strongly urge the Prime Minister to include a proposal for Women's Suffrage into the Government Bill embodying the recommendations of the Conference. It cannot be expected that societies whose demand is for Women's Suffrage on the same terms as men should hail the detailed proposals with entire satisfaction. Without expressing an opinion upon the suggested basis, however, we all desire to welcome the removal of the sex barrier."

Gertrude Forbes-Robertson, Actresses' Franchise League; Fflorens Roch, Catholic Women's Suffrage Society; Maud Anna Bell, Church League for Women's Suffrage; Maud Selborne, Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association; Jane E. Strickland, Free Church League for Women's Suffrage; Gulielma Crosfield, Friends' League for Women's Suffrage; J. Spring-Rice, Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation; Eva McLaren, Liberal Women's Suffrage Union; Herbert Jacobs, Men's League for Women's Suffrage; Esther S. Roper, National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society; Millicent Garrett Fawcett, National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies; A. M. Chapman, New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage; Frances Balfour, Scottish Churches League for Women's Suffrage; Frances H. Simson, Scottish University Women's Suffrage Union; Henry W. Nevinson, United Suffragists; C. Despard, Women's Freedom League; Gertrude Eaton, Women's Tax Resistance League; I. E. Harrison, Hastings and St. Leonards W.S. Propaganda League.

"THAT WON'T SUIT MY LOT"

Lady insurance collector calls at a house in Dockland; woman opens the door. "Got nothing for you this morning, Miss, expect the landlord every minute; must give him his rent to-day and something off the back, or he'll raise hell." "All right, Missus, we will leave it till next week, and perhaps you will give me two weeks then." "All right, Miss, I'll try; I can't let myself run out of the insurance these days; it's not so much me, it's the children that I think about. One never knows what may happen from one day to another, the weather is so awful, and look at the price of coal, 2s. cwt., and the food—why, I'm worried to death." "How do you manage with your six children and a man to feed?" "How do I manage! I can't manage; we live from hand to mouth. Look at the price of bread." "Yes, I know, but perhaps things will be better by and bye. You know Lord Devonport is going to put us on rations." "So my old man was telling me as he was a-reading 'Lloyd's'—we always have 'Lloyd's' on Sunday—4 lb. loaf a head per week. Yes, I should say so; that won't suit my lot. Do you know how much I cut up every day? Three loaves." "Oh, yes, missus, but these lords, they are educated and they are going to dictate to us how much we should eat." "Yes, I know Lord Devonport; he starved us in the Dock strike, and he thinks he is going to starve us now. He'll try to do it, and put it down to the —— Germans; it wasn't the Germans when we were on strike; it was him—the rotter. I haven't forgotten him. I suppose he hisself isn't going short; he'll watch it. The German working man was our friend in the great strike, Missus." Insurance woman (wife of a docker on strike): "Don't you remember the German transport workers sending us five thousand pounds to fight Lord Devonport?" "Yes, doesn't it seem awful, and to think our poor fellews are fighting them! It isn't the working people that want to fight; it's those that's on top. I say, Miss, what have you and I got against the German working woman? I say there is good and bad in every country. I have as much as I can do to fight for bread for my little ones, and if Lord Devonport stops my little children's bread, then I'll start a-pinching of it; I will, s'welp me Gawd, I will." "No, Missus, the best advice I can give you is to send your six children up to Lord Devonport, and ask him to keep them for a week. He will have learnt by experience by the end of the week. So long, Missus; see you next week."

FOREIGN NEWS.

The "Neue Badishe Landes-Zeitung" quotes a speech of the Deputy Scheideman at a meeting in Heidelberg. Scheideman declared:

"Remember that we are engaged in a defensive War, which should not degenerate into a War of conquest—because annexations are germs of future wars. The English Colonial Empire is a hundred times bigger than England itself; the French twenty times bigger; and the German hardly five times bigger.

"The activity of our commerce and industry has awakened in England the idea of isolation. It is the greatest victory that history has recorded that Germany can stand against a formidable coalition like that. What is German must remain German; what is Belgian must remain Belgian; what is French must remain French.

"An extension of territories would be a national weakness. No nation can bear annexations. If anyone would take a piece of German soil from us, armaments would increase more than ever.

"We want to finish this War victorious, and we want to avoid future Wars. The War aims of the Chancellor are the same as those of the German Socialists: (1) Economic liberty; (2) status quo of territorial Empire; (3) political independence.

"We demand also the economic and political liberty of every citizen. The German people fight for liberty and peace."

* * * *

On December 24th, 1916, the French Deputies of the Socialist Minority declared, "We refuse to see our soldiers killed in order that Russia shall get Constantinople."

* * * *

The "Journal du Peuple" quotes German Socialists who demand the liberation of Alsace-Lorraine. In March, 1915, Ledebour declared in the Reichstag that Alsace "wants to become French again."

* * * *

In August, 1915, Bernstein demanded in the name of the minority the self-government of Alsace-Lorraine. Scheidemann declared in November, 1916, in the Reichstag, "What is Belgian must remain Belgian; what is French must remain French; what is German must remain German."

* * * *

The Italian Socialist Party has protested against the deportation of the Belgians to Germany. They say, amongst other things: "The Italian Socialist Party protests against the shameful military deportations. No matter who are the authors, we consider this abominable system as a direct consequence of the war, of which our Party is and remains an unconvertable adversary."

* * * *

The Vienna "Arbeiter-Zeitung" says: "We are happy that Mr. Wilson follows the ways adopted by ourselves. In future it will be impossible to talk exclusively about 'German peace' or 'English peace.' The peoples will have to face the conditions and consequences of an American peace."

AFTER THE EXPLOSION,

By EDWARD FULLER.

The great explosion of the night of January 19th will long be a ghastly memory in East London. The Titanic roar still lingers in the ears of those who heard it, and the shattered houses bear witness to a tragedy of war unsurpassed in this land.

A wall of rough rubble, the remains of little homes which were packed so closely together that they fell like a house of cards, has been erected round the chief centre of devastation, but it can only hide the ruins from prying eyes. It can never shut out the memory of the tragedy. Nothing but the hand of Time can do that—but immediately the meaning of the explosion was realised, hundreds of willing hands were doing the next best thing. Religious buildings of all kinds were thrown open for the reception of the homeless—the vicarage of the mother parish of the borough, a Roman Catholic School, and the settlement buildings of a Nonconformist body being among the many places utilised. The injured were tended in the hospitals of the surrounding neighbourhood, and, where possible, the dead were released from the ruins. Individual efforts at relief were extraordinary. One young woman with a sick husband, living in two rooms, took in six people, who remained with her from the Friday night on which the explosion occurred till the following Tuesday.

The Borough Council organised the relief work, and the Mayor, himself a working man, has thrown himself heart and soul into the work. "It could not be in better hands," said one of our W.S.F. members who lives in the borough and has been actively engaged in the work at one of these settlements.

The temporary accommodation provided in the various public buildings was the means of reuniting many families whose members had been separated in the upheaval, and in finding new temporary homes care has been taken not to divide families except where injuries have made it inevitable. Forty-two unoccupied model houses belonging to a public authority have been utilised as temporary homes; some of the sufferers have gone away to live with friends; and a number of children have been admitted to a convalescent home on the south side of the river, while others are being entertained by a gentleman at Epping. The Education Committee's dining centres were utilised for providing meals for the homeless, and, as far as possible, accommodation for the children of nineteen seriously damaged schools was found in other schools, but attendance was not made compulsory.

The material damage, extending, as it does, over an area of several miles, will take a considerable time to rectify. The houses in the devastated district may not be rebuilt till after the War—and when that time comes it is to be hoped that opportunity will be taken to improve on a type of architecture which is one of our unfortunate inheritances from the Victorian era. The Bishop of Chelmsford, in whose diocese the explosion occurred, has already lent his voice to plead for better conditions when the time for rebuilding comes, and this is a matter in which the interests of the workers must be carefully watched.

* * * *

Our correspondent describes the generous efforts which are being made by good-hearted individuals to aid the homeless victims of the East London explosion. But we ask what is the Government doing? It was announced that no public subscription was to be raised as the Government would compensate the sufferers and supply their needs. How have these people been compensated? We ask for an official report of what the Government has done and proposes to do.

Saving the Babies

The Importance of Diet

Every worker in the cause of saving infant lives has come face to face with the great obstacle of ignorance on the part of so many mothers. This ignorance is one of the tallest barriers which the welfare-worker has to surmount—and perhaps the chief contributing cause of infant mortality.

As in matters of cleanliness and clothing, so does this ignorance wreak great harm upon the infant in the vitally important matter of diet. Welfare-workers know only too well how many infants languish for want of sufficient, correct, and regular nutriment. Particularly is this true in the case of infants whose mothers are prevented from looking to the feeding of their children by occupations other than domestic. With so many women engaged in war work, this difficulty has been vastly aggravated.

For years Corporations of the Midlands, such as Sheffield, Lincoln, and Rotherham, have grappled with the task of conserving infant life. The officials and the welfare-workers have had to face the feeding difficulties in countless cases. Earnest and sincere, these workers have patiently striven to overcome the ignorance of mothers, and have brought knowledge and practical advice to many a hard-worked and worried woman who did not know how to care for her child, scarcely had time to do so even if she knew.

We are proud to say that the diet difficulty has been largely solved in so many of these cases by the use of Glaxo. Glaxo contains nothing that is foreign to milk. At the source of supply, before any chemical change has taken place, this milk is dried to a powder. The Glaxo process makes the powdered milk germ-free and prevents the curd subsequently forming a dense clot. Glaxo is packed in closed vessels and is prepared for use by merely adding boiling water. An infant can, by taking Glaxo, obtain a continuous supply of germ-free milk.

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MENTAL EFFICIENCY

Efficiency—Mental efficiency—is no meaningless catch-phrase. It is the slogan of success in life to-day. Boards of Trade, Chambers of Commerce, Efficiency Clubs everywhere, are taking up the investigation and study of the subject all over the world. Governmental Departments are disseminating information in regard to it.

But the foundation of national efficiency rests upon the efficiency of the individual. No matter in which direction you turn, truly efficient men and women are getting the most out of life, for they have learned to develop and expand their capacities for work and play to the utmost. This hustling, work-a-day world holds no rich prizes for those who do not organise and develop their mental resources so as to make the most of what nature has endowed them with.

The average man is not worth much more than a dollar a day from his shoulders down; but from his shoulders up, there is no limit to his value.

If you would make money in business—you must be efficient. If you would rise to a high place in any profession—you must be efficient. If you would win power and influence in public life—you must be efficient. If your occupation is smothering your ambitions and hopes—learn the principles of efficiency. This knowledge will bring you advancement, increased salary, more leisure to do the big things in life.

Here are ten new books which lay bare the secrets of efficient, triumphant manhood in plain, easily understood language:—

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PERSEVERANCE.....How to Develop It.
SPEECH.....How to Use It Effectively.
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THE CRISIS—AND AFTER

REMARKABLE ARTICLE By E. D. MOREL

Read this month's "U.D.C."

The International situation changes every morning. For the past few weeks the World has been living in a whirl of surprises. Each day brings its new sensation. The German Peace Offer, the American Note, the Allies reply to each, the "U" Boat Campaign, the action of the Neutrals, all these and other events are apt to bewilder the mind and perplex the understanding. "What is the right line to take?" is the question which those of us who are working for a permanent Peace in Europe and a better relationship between the peoples of the World are asking ourselves at the present moment, "What is the path to tread amidst these crowding difficulties, which will lead us to a brighter future?"

A GUIDE TO THOUSANDS

For help in answering these questions every reader should turn to the February "U.D.C." that monthly journal of fact and thought which every Peace worker should read in order to keep abreast of the times and mentally armed for the conflict against Militarism and Reaction. It costs only a penny, or 1s. 6d. post free for 12 months. And the current issue contains an article of absorbing interest on "The International Situation," by Mr. E. D. Morel, of whose book, "Truth and the War," 10,000 copies have just been sold.

Speaking of the new German submarine campaign, Mr. Morel says:—

"It is the culminating argument of fact against there being any neutrals in a future war, and it must therefore increase the probabilities of a League of all the Nations against War. Man's mis-applied genius in perfecting the art of slaughter is reaching, has perhaps now reached, the point when it tends to defeat itself . . . . . Western Civilisation must either succeed in cutting out the cancer or be destroyed by it."

But you should read the whole article for yourself. It will be an aid and a guide to thousands.

BRILLIANT ARTICLES

But, in addition to this article, readers of this month's "U.D.C." will find other articles of the greatest interest and value. There is a brilliant and scathing article on "Patriotism," by Lady Margaret Sackville, and those who have been prevented from hearing lectures by the Hon. Bertrand Russell will be able to read what he has to say in print, and will find that his pen is mightier than the Competent Military Authority. There is also an article of absorbing interest on the situation in Roumania by a British ex-Military Officer, whilst Mr. Charles Trevelyan, M.P., reviews at length Mr. Ramsay Macdonald's new book, "National Defence," and the second edition of "Truth and the War."

WRITE TO-DAY

"The U.D.C." is invaluable to all fighting against Secret Diplomacy, Militarism, and Reaction in the cause of a saner civilisation. Month by month it brings you facts and information unobtainable elsewhere. It only costs a penny. On sending 1½d. in stamps to the address below you will be posted a copy of the February issue. But best of all have it sent to you for 12 months. Get a 1s. 6d. Postal Order and send it with the following form to the Manager, the U.D.C., 37, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C. In return, "The U.D.C." will be sent you each month for a year. Write to-day.

"Secret Diplomacy, or The Masked Gamblers." Striking Cartoon by Joseph Southall. Presented with every copy of the February "U.D.C."

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QUESTIONS OF THE DAY

THE PASSING OF THE "SERVANT"

It is said that 100,000 women have left domestic service and gone into War work. Already, before the War, the number of women willing to occupy the position of "servant" to a "mistress" was on the wane. War has accentuated the process of evolution in this matter. It is certain that in the not distant future domestic service as it is known to-day will have disappeared; the work will be largely sub-divided, and will be executed in recognised working hours and paid for at very much higher rates than at present. In the meantime domestic workers should enrol themselves in a trade union. We understand that they are eligible as members of the National Federation of Women Workers, the central office of which is at 34 Mecklenburg Square; also that the Workers' Union has started a special domestic workers' section, and that inquiries in regard to this should be addressed to Miss Manicom, 32 Charing Cross.

GARMENT WORKERS

At a meeting of the Tailoring Trade Board (Great Britain) it was resolved to vary the minimum time rates of wages at present payable to workers other than learners from 3½d. to 4d. an hour in the case of female workers. Increases were also made in the minimum rates payable to learners. The varied rates will come into operation on February 26th.

Owing to the rise in the cost of living, the increased rates will not be worth as much as the original rates were when War broke out. Why not have raised rates in proportion to the rise in the cost of living? The manufacturer raises prices on that principle.

WOMEN PENSION OFFICERS

The Women's Local Government Society has addressed a memorial to the Prime Minister asking that, "if only for attaining greater speed in the relief of the suffering poor, women may be appointed as old-age pension officers, and that the services of women for investigation for War pensions may be more largely utilised.

WOMEN'S WAR SERVICE
THEIR DOOM

Mrs. Tennant and Miss Violet Markham (the well-known anti-suffragist, who is said by some people to be converted now) are appealing for 30,000 women for the "National Filling Factories," where women fill shells with dangerous T.N.T. and lyddite. Every woman who undertakes this work faces the certainty of being poisoned, either to a greater or lesser degree, by the fumes and dust from these explosives. T.N.T. poisoning sometimes attacks the lungs, causing what seems to be pneumonia; sometimes it seizes upon the digestive functions, causing what seems to be jaundice. In DREADNOUGHT number 19, August 5th, 1916. we published an exhaustive account of the inquests on two T.N.T. workers which described in detail the effects of this subtle and deadly poison so far as they are yet known to the medical profession. 27s. to 30s. a week is offered for shell filling, and the hours are said to be from 54 to 60 per week.

* * * *

We hear many complaints of the canteen arrangements at the Bow Small Arms Factory.

THE LADY VOLUNTEERS

Reams have been written in praise of the services rendered by the lady munition canteen workers, but now "an official statement" published in the Press asserts that 50 of these volunteers can be replaced by 5 paid workers, and that 10,000 volunteers have been needed for 150 canteens. "The waste is obvious," adds the statement. Evidently many of the ladies only took up the work for fun, but we suspect that the matter is being accentuated as a plea for the Industrial Conscription of women. It is further stated that the making of complaints concerning canteens "shall not be a punishable offence." Has it been so hitherto? We hope not.

SOLDER FUMES CAUSE GASTRITIS

We welcome the decision of the Blackburn Munitions Court on January 30th granting a leaving certificate to a woman solderer who suffered from gastritis caused by inhaling fumes in the course of her employment.

There are thousands of women in the shell filling factories whose state of health calls for their release. Let them apply to the Tribunal of their district: let us hope that other Tribunals will act as wisely as that of Blackburn.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED FOR MEN DENIED TO WOMEN

The Tees and Darlington Munitions Tribunal is also to be congratulated on having upheld the objection of Mary Dewison, of Port Clarence, who was summoned by a Tees-side munition firm for refusing to carry cast iron frames weighing about a hundredweight to the drilling machine on which she was engaged. The woman complained that the frames were too heavy for her, and that assistance was provided for men doing the same class of work, but not for her.

But what slaves we workers are, to be taken before Tribunals for reasons such as these!

OH!

Mr. Geoffrey Drage has been addressing the Dublin Branch of the National Union of Women Workers, which, of course, is not a union of workers at all. He urged that women's trade unions should make it their policy to demand a minimum weekly wage of 10s. and to secure the diminution of drink and betting and the promotion of morality!

Does he think that women can indulge in riotous living on 10s. a week, or is it the morals of the employers that he is concerned with?

Rev. J. McKenna, S.J., said that the wages of many skilled women workers in Dublin do not exceed 5s. a week.

Has he ex-communicated their employers?

MILITARISM APPLIED TO INDUSTRY

The "Times" says: Our attention has been drawn by Lord Derby to an inaccuracy in the statement headed "Khaki at the Docks" on February 1. The men in the Liverpool Dock Battalion are all inegibile from age or other causes, but they are all enlisted men, and therefore just as subject to discipline as any other men of his Majesty's forces.

A GRAVE DANGER

The Bethnal Green Military Service Tribunal has been noticeable for its lack of consideration towards the Jews, who have appeared before it, whether appealing on business, domestic, health, or conscientious grounds. This Tribunal has now passed a resolution asking the local Borough Council to call a Conference of East London Boroughs for the purpose of appointing a deputation to urge the Government to apply compulsion to the alien Jews. The "Bethnal Green News" reports that Councillor T. Brooks said, "If something was not done somebody would

MAKE A SCREAM IN THE BOROUGH

and once the fuse was set going it would be a job to stop it."

Such statements are incitements to violence: their authors will be responsible if trouble follows. Russian methods are spreading apace in this country: already the Ministry of Munitions has appointed *agents provocateurs*. Let us hope that we shall not also see the establishment of Jewish *Pogroms*.

BERNARD SHAW AT THE FRONT

The "Daily News" reports that Bernard Shaw is at the front, and that he murmurs, "What awful fools we are," and that he told the officers' mess that "what the nations of Europe really want is an early and dishonourable peace." We hope that his experiences will cause Mr. Shaw to write some genuine "Common Sense about the War." His later sayings upon the world-tragedy have appeared to us surprisingly coloured by the commonplace claptrap of the hour. Contact with War as it is will probably restore to the world the old Mr. Shaw with his inimitable gift of clear and unsophisticated thought.

EAST LONDON JEWS
GREAT MEETING IN WHITECHAPEL

On Sunday, January 31st, a great meeting to protest against the arrest by the British authorities of four Russian subjects on a neutral ship bound from Norway to America and the order deporting these men to Russia, and to demand the maintenance of the right of asylum, was held in the Premierland Cinema, Commercial Road. The hall holds upwards of 2,000 people: it was crowded with Jewish men and women, who applauded with tense enthusiasm. The chair was taken by Mr. Mellor. Mr. Joseph King, M.P., Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, and Mrs. Ewer addressed the audience in English, and Dr. Salkin, Dr. Margolin, and Mr. Bezalel spoke in Yiddish. A collection of £30 was taken towards defraying the cost of the appeal on behalf of the four Russian Jews which is being taken to the High Court.

COUNT PLUNKETT'S VICTORY

The election to the Roscommon vacancy of Count Plunkett, the Sinn Fein candidate is an indication of the strong hostility towards the present Government of Ireland, which is felt by the Irish people, and their ever-growing determination that Ireland shall manage her own affairs. Count Plunkett challenged the people for a verdict on the Government of Ireland since Easter week, his son was executed for complicity in the Rebellion, he was the candidate of an organisation which desires that Ireland shall be absolutely independent: his return by an overwhelming vote is a striking reply.

ROSSENDALE ELECTION (continued from front page)

Mr. Taylor is very popular in the district, and he is being supported by many local celebrities. "You can be sure he'll get the soldiers' vote, especially us as are wounded," said a wounded soldier. "They've got their hands full with Albert," said an old lady admiringly, as the candidate left for Preston with the military escort. "Intellectually, there is only one candidate, and his name is Taylor," said a local merchant.

But Mr. Taylor will have both the great Party Machines and all the capitalist Press against him, to say nothing of the refusal of halls at the last moment; for instance, the Palace Hall, Haslingden, from which the speakers were locked out. Nevertheless, the candidature goes cheerily forward; about nine meetings are being held each day. The principal committee rooms are at the B.S.P. Club, Ash Grove, Rawtenstall, and at 32 Market Street, Bacup. In addition to local speakers, Mr. C. G. Ammon, Councillor Margaret Ashton, Mrs. Crawfurd, Miss Emily Cox, M.A., Councillor J. R. Davies, the Rev. Herbert Dunnico, Mr. Roden Buxton, Mr. Bruce Glasier, Mr. E. C. Fairchild, the Rev. Stanley B. James, Mr. F. W. Pethick Lawrence, Councillor George Vitt, and Mr. R. C. Wallhead have gone down to help.

Mrs. Spence Watson, widow of Dr. Spence Watson, well-known in his day as President of the National Liberal Federation has written wishing success to Mr. Taylor's candidature.

LONDON LABOUR COUNCIL AND ADULT SUFFRAGE

In view of the Report of the Speaker's Electoral Reform Conference special interest attaches to the delegate conference which the London Labour Council is holding in Holborn Hall, Gray's Inn Road, on Saturday, February 17th, from 3.30 to 6.30 p.m.

As about 80 organisations are now affiliated to this Council, its decisions will be important, and will give a very fair indication of the reception likely to be accorded to the proposals of the Speaker's Conference in the general Labour world.

Emergency resolutions dealing with the Report will, of course, be moved. Resolutions already on the agenda deal with adult suffrage, the conduct of elections, proportional representation, and the initiative, referendum, and recall.

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The action taken by the Joint Board, and the "Statement" issued by the Labour Party, which are referred to in the following pages, deserve a reply. Here it is. It is addressed to the entire Labour, Trade Union, and Socialist organisations of Great Britain. Study it well, and discuss it in your Societies, for the future well-being of the Working-Class Movement depends upon your verdict.

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"THE TATTOOED MEN"
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LABOUR LEADERS
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WORKERS' MONEY:
THE FULL STORY TOLD
By
FREDERICK TEMPLE
Author of "INTEREST, GOLD AND BANKING" "WAR FINANCE AND THE WORKER," &c.
LONDON: The Commonwealth Press,
118 Cannon Street, E.C.

THE LIBEL ACTION AGAINST US.—Readers are asked to remember that an East London Army contractor is bringing a libel action against us because we have championed his employees. Subscriptions to the Libel Action Fund are urgently needed, and should be sent to the Editor. They will be acknowledged in THE DREADNOUGHT.

London Labour Council for Adult Suffrage
CONFERENCE
In Holborn Hall (Gray's Inn Rd., W.C.)
Saturday, Feb. 17th 3.30 to 6.30 p.m.
Speakers: Mr. W. CARTER, N.U.R.; Mr. J. A. HOBSON; Mr. FRED HUGHES, N.U.C.; Mr. JAMES MYLLES, I.L.P.; Miss SYLVIA PANKHURST, W.S.F.; Mrs. CEDAR PAUL, W.L.L.; Mr. TOM RICHARDSON, M.P.
Chair: Mr. FRED BRAMLEY, N.F.T.A.
Visitors Tickets - - - ONE SHILLING
CONCERT AND DANCE
follows at 7.30 p.m.
Admission One Shilling. Tickets from 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

WILLIAM MORRIS HALL, WALTHAMSTOW.
Monday, February 12th at 7.30 p.m.
"*Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*"
In Aid of the "MOTHERS' ARMS."
Tickets 3d., 6d., 1s. at the Hall or from 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

TO-MORROW—SUNDAY
6 p.m.
Bow Woman's Hall, 400 Old Ford Rd., E.
Lecturers: Mr. C. D. KING (U.D.C.): "The Workers and British Foreign Policy." Miss ZELDA KAHN (Mrs. Coats): "Women and Patriotism."

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To secure Human Suffrage, namely, a Vote for every Woman and Man of full age, and to win Social and Economic Freedom for the People.

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WHAT'S ON?

W.S.F. FIXTURES

OUTDOOR

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9th.
Hague Street, Bethnal Green, 12 (noon)), Mrs. Walker.
Lewisham Market Place, 2 p.m., Mrs. Boyce.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10th.
Usher Road, Bow, 11.30 a.m., Miss Price.
Fire Station opposite Pitfield Street, Hoxton, 12.30 p.m., Mrs. Boyce, Miss Beamish.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11th.
Dock Gates, Poplar, 11.30 a.m., Mrs. Boyce, Mrs. Cressall.
Osborn Street, Whitechapel, 11.30 a.m., Mrs. Walker.
Hyde Park, 3 p.m., Mrs. Walker.
Victoria Park, 3 p.m., Peace Meeting.
Cannon Street Road, Whitechapel, 3 p.m., Mrs. Boyce, Mr. Blythe.
Bow Women's Hall, 6 p.m., Public Meeting.
40 Clifton Gardens, Maida Vale, 7 p.m., Miss Lynch.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12th.
William Morris Hall, Walthamstow, 7.30 p.m., "Snow White," Miss Sneddon and friends.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13th.
St. Stephen's Road, Roman Road, Bow, 11.30 a.m., Miss Price.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14th.
53 St. Leonard's Street, Bromley, 2 p.m., Miss Lynch.
Poplar Women's Hall, 8.15 p.m., Mr. John Scurr, Lecture; Discussion.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15th.
Usher Road, Bow, 11.30 a.m., Mrs. Bouvier.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16th.
Fire Station opposite Pitfield Street, Hoxton, 12.30 p.m., Mrs. Walker, Miss Beamish.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17th.
St. Stephen's Road, Roman Road, Bow, 11.30 a.m., Miss Price.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY, 18th.
Hyde Park, 3 p.m., Mrs. Boyce.
Victoria Park, 3 p.m., Peace Meeting.
Bow Women's Hall, 6 p.m., Lecture.

INDOOR

William Morris Hall, Walthamstow, on Monday 12th, at 7.30 p.m., in aid of the "Mothers' Arms," a performance of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" has been kindly arranged by Miss Sneddon. Tickets 1s., 6d. and 3d.

CHANDOS HALL "AT HOME," 21a Maiden Lane (off Bedford Street, Strand).—The advertised meeting for the 17th has been cancelled on account of the Electoral Reform Conference in Holborn Hall. On February 24th, at 3.30 p.m., Miss Theodora Wilson Wilson, "Alternatives"; Mr. R. E. Roper, M.A., M.Ed., "Discipline and Punishment." Chair, Mrs. Bouvier.

BOW WOMEN'S HALL, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow.—To-morrow (Sunday), 6 p.m., Lecture by Mr. C. D. King (U.D.C.), "The Workers and British Foreign Policy"; Miss Zelda Kahn (Mrs. Coates), "Women and Patriotism." On February Sylvia Pankhurst. On February 18th, Mr. E. W. 18th, Mr. E. W. Cant (B.S.P.), "Materialism and the War." Chair, Mrs. Boyce.

Friends and supporters will be pleased to hear that improved heating arrangments are being made at the Bow Women's Hall.

POPLAR WOMEN'S HALL, 20 Railway St., Poplar (opposite South Bromley Station, N.L.R.).—Wednesday, February 14th, at 8.15 p.m., Mr. John Scurr will lecture.

Admission free. All are welcome!

London Section General Meeting at 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, Monday 19th, at 8 p.m.

OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Re-opening Kingsley Hall to-day (Saturday),

N.C.A.S. to Demand Votes for All.—Meeting at Kingsway Hall, Kingsway, to-day (Saturday) at 3 p.m.

London Labour Council for Adult Suffrage.—Electoral Reform Conference in Holborn Hall, Gray's Inn Road, W.C., Saturday, February 17th, 3.30 to 6.30 p.m.

Visitors tickets to the Conference, price 1s., may be obtained from the Secretary, at 400 Old Ford Road, or from the affiliated organisations.

Following the Conference, a social and dance will be held at 7.30 p.m. Mr. Fred Hagger will act as M.C. and Miss Harris will arrange the entertainment.

W.S.F. BRANCHES

ARE YOU AN ACTIVE WORKING MEMBER?

LONDON

Barking.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Langford, Ailsa Craig, 97 Essex Road.

Bow.—400 Old Ford Road, E. Hon. Secretary: Miss Stevens.

At the members' meeting on Monday, February 6th, Miss Stevens was elected hon. secretary, and Mrs. Moor hon. treasurer, to be assisted by a committee of five. Branch meetings will be held every second and fourth Monday. Next meeting, February 26th, at 8 p.m.

DREADNOUGHT sales week ending February 3rd, 718. Miss Harriet, 264; Mrs. Holoway, 130; Miss O'Brien, 120; Miss Price, 54; Miss Mackay, 38; General, 112.

Bromley.—53 St. Leonard's Street. Hon. Secs.: Mrs. Lansbury, Mrs. Wood.

Canning Town.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Parsons, 94 Ravenscroft Road.

Enfield and Edmonton.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Beavis, 171 Church Street, Lower Edmonton.

Leyton.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Hart, 73 Calderon Road. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 52.

Poplar.—Hon. Sec.: Miss E. Lagsding, 20 Railway Street. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 91, per Mrs. Shlette, 68; General Sales, 25.

Tidal Basin.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Drake, 49 Crediton Road, DREADNOUGHT sales, average, 36.

St. Pancras.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Redgrove, B.S.P. Hall, 44 Malden Road, Kentish Town.

Willesden.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Sheppard, 141 Villiers Road.

PROVINCES.

Birmingham.—Hon. Sec.: Miss A. F. Boden, 10 Sandhurst Road, Moseley.

Four fortnightly lectures will be held in Stirchley Institute at 7.30 p.m. February 14th. Subject: Internationalism. Speaker: Miss Haly.

Bradford.—Hon. Sec.: Miss McHale, 12 Airedale College Terrace. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 26.

Brynmawr and Nantyglo.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Hayward, Coedcae, Garn Fack.

Burnley.—Hon. Sec. pro tem.: Mrs. Mortimer Holden, The Nurseries, Accrington.

Chester-le-Street.—Hon. Sec.: Miss Faulkner, 14 Hilda Terrace, South Pelaw, Chester-le-Street.

Chopwell.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Bell, 62 Forth Street. Fortnightly meetings are to be held to discuss such books as "Woman and Economics," "Woman and Labour," etc.

Cornsay and Quebec.—Hon. Sec. pro tem.: Miss Ellis, Dundalk House, Neville's Cross. Branch meeting, Monday at 197 High Street, Cornsay.

Doncaster.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Kent, 32 St. Sepulchre Gate.

Durham.—Hon. Sec.: Miss C. Ellis, Dundalk House, Neville's Cross.

Ferryhill.—Hon. Sec.: Miss Ruby Stoddart, 12 Hackworth Street, Dean Bank.

Leeds.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Hunter, 7 Sugdenfold, Armley. — A Conference will be held at the Clarion Café, Gascoigne Street, Boar Lane, on February 10th, where Mrs. Drake, of London, will be chief speaker.

Leicester.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Hill, 12 Sweetbriar Road.

Manchester.—Hon. Sec.: Miss F. Wussilwski, 18 Broughton Street, N.

In addition to the Secretary, the officers are: Mr. Bailey, Chairman; Miss R. Graham, West View, 251 Upper Brook Street, Hon. Treasurer; Miss C. Samuelson, Hon. Literary Secretary; Hon. Organisers: Miss Cannon, Miss B. Joyce; Committee: Miss G. Wilson, Miss F. Leach, Miss B. Liberson.

Medomsley.—Hon. Sec.: Tom Orr, Esq., 6 Derwent Cottages, Durham.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Hon. Sec.: Mr. Nicholson, 19 Alexandra Road, North Heaton.

Portsmouth.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Clarges, 200 Westfield Road, E. Southsea.

Next branch meeting, February 14th. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 39.

Prudhoe-on-Tyne.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Parks, 4 Riding Terrace, Mickley Square.

Sheffield.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Chandler, 23 Abbey Lane, Woodseats. Lit. Sec.: Mrs. Manoin, 98 Gell Street. Members' meetings are held alternate Thursdays, at 7.30 p.m., Trades Hall, Charles Street. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 104.

Southampton.—Hon. Sec.: Miss Helsby, 77 Tennyson Road.

York: Huddersfield, Rotherham, Wakefield.—Organiser: Miss Stephen, c/o Mrs. Gee, 15 Springwood Terrace, Huddersfield.

SCOTLAND.

Glasgow.—Hon. Sec.: Lachlan Smith, Esq., 126 Bothwell Street.

PEACE MEETING

Victoria Park, To-Morrow

SUNDAY, 3 p.m.

Speakers: Mrs. BOUVIER, Mr. GEORGE ALLEN and Others.

ADULT SUFFRAGE

KINGSWAY HALL, KINGSWAY, LONDON,
SATURDAY (TO-DAY), at 3 p.m.
(doors open, 2.30).

TO DEMAND VOTES FOR ALL.

Speakers: The Right Hon. Sir John Simon, M.P., Mr. W. C. Anderson, M.P., Miss Mary Macarthur, Councillor Margaret Ashton and Mrs. Barton.

Chair: The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Lincoln.

Tickets (Reserved), 2s. 6d., 1s., and 3d. (tax included). Apply to the Secretary, National Council for Adult Suffrage, 27 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.; or the Secretary, Workers' Suffrage Federation, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

W.S.F. ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The W.S.F. Annual Conference takes place on Whit-Sunday and Monday, May 27th and 28th. Resolutions for the preliminary agenda and nominations for officers and committee must reach the Hon. Sec. at 400 Old Ford Road, on or before March 1st.

A meeting for London Central branch members will take place at the International Suffrage Shop, 5 Duke Street, Adelphi, at 8 p.m., on February 21st, to discuss motions for the conference agenda and make nominations. W.S.F. London members who have no branch in their district should attach themselves to the central branch and attend this meeting. Further particulars from Miss Lynch, 400 Old Ford Road, E.

Donations to be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Tchaykovsky, Langham House, Harrow, or to the Hon. Financial Secretary, Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

GENERAL FUND.—Mr. W. J. Woods, £2; Mrs. Lancaster, £1; Hon. Mrs. Rollo Russell, £1; Miss Gore Browne (7s. monthly), 14s.; Miss E. Lowy (monthly)), 10s.; Mrs. and Miss Casey (Peace Banners), 10s.; Miss Bland, 5s.; Miss H. E. Raisin (monthly), 5s.; Mr. and Mrs. Green, 1s. 6d.; A Friend (Chandos Hall), 6d. COLLECTIONS: Chandos Hall, 7s.; Profit on Tea, 4s. 10d.; Bow Women's Hall, 2s. 1½d.

DREADNOUGHT FUND. Mrs. Branch £1; Miss Branch, 15s.; Lieut.-Commdr. G. J. Sykes, R.N.R., 10s.; Sandy Kirkwood, Esq., 6s. 9½d.; Miss Lilian Judson, 5s.; "A Well-Wisher," 2s 6d.; Miss Isa Faulkner, 2s.; Miss Fox, 1s. 6d.; Miss S. W. Newsome (monthly), 1s.

DREADNOUGHT GUARANTEE FUND.—A.M.B., first instalment of £10, £5.

LIBEL ACTION GUARANTEE FUND.—Emil Davies, Esq., £2 2s.; Misses Gulland, 5s.; Mr. Alexander Bertioli, 2s. 6d.; Miss L. Glanfield, 2s.

MILK AND GENERAL DISTRESS.—Per Nurse Hebbes (Montessori), £2 0s. 9d.; Mrs. Baillie Weaver (monthly), £2; Mrs. Patricia E. Shaw, £1; Contessa Tomasi Isolani (monthly), £1; Miss E. M. Morgan (5s. monthly), £1; Nurse Hebbes (weekly), 12s.; Mrs. Brewer, 15s. 6d.; Mrs. Richmond (fortnightly), 10s.; Miss E. B. Rose, 10s.; Rev. T. Gore Browne, 8s.; Mrs. A. M. Burke, 6s. 6d.; Mrs. Hinton, 5s.; Five Northern Friends (monthly), 5s.; Mrs. Heywood Bright (weekly), 5s.; Mrs. Usherwood, 5s.; Misses Barrowman (monthly), 5s.; Mrs. Hyde, 4s.; D. Wilkie, Esq. (monthly), 2s. 6d.; Miss Mitchell (monthly), 2s. 6d.; Miss Balchin, 2s.; Miss Laing, 2s.; A Friend, per Miss Price, 1s. COLLECTIONS: Miss Lilian Judson, £1 15s.; L.S.A. Tool Room, £1 14s. 3d.; Miss E. Melvin, £1; Miss M. J. Handley, 15s.; Miss Mackay (Churn), 12s. 8½d.; Miss E. Lagsding (Green's Yard), 11s. 3d.; Nurse Connolly, 7s. 8d.; Misses K. Lagsding and T. Barker (Cubitt Town), 6s. 6d.; Miss Mary Phillips, 1s.

CLOTHES, &c.—Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Hyde, Miss Turner, and Miss Bradish.

BOOKS, &c.—Grace and Fred Everett,

Donations received to DREADNOUGHT and Propaganda Fund in correspondence *re* Draw Tickets per C. Drake:—Mrs. Minturn Scott, 10s.; Miss Dorothy Matthew, 5s.; Reginald Pott, Esq., 5s.; Miss Muriel Lester, 2s. 6d.; Miss A. Howlett, 10s.; Mrs. K. Richmond, 5s.; Mrs. Crosland Taylor, 5s.; G. S. P., 2s. 6d.; Miss Mildred Hay, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Beedham, 15s.; Miss J. Barrowman and D. Wilkie, Esq., 5s.; Mrs. Coates Hansen, 10s.; L. M. Purvis, 1s.; Mrs. S. V. Bracher, 1s.; Mrs. G. A. Barham, 5s.; E. A. D. White, Esq., 10s.; Miss A. Cannon, 2s. 6d.; Miss Drewry, 2s. 6d.; Miss H. J. Pole, £1; Lady Margaret Sackville, £1 1s.; Miss Dorothy Flint, 2s. 6d.

MOTHERS AND BABIES

The Mothers' Arms, 438 Old Ford Road, Bow.

Day nursery from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Doctor's consultation and baby-weighing, Mondays, 2.30 p.m. Mothers and babies can consult Nurse at any time.

Dental Clinic by appointment.

20 Railway Street, Poplar.
(opposite South Bromley Station).

Doctor's consultation and baby-weighing, Tuesdays, 2.30 p.m. Nurse may be seen at any time.

53 St. Leonard's Street, Bromley-by-Bow.

Doctor's consultation and baby-weighing, Wednesdays, 2 p.m.

All mothers and children are welcome.

Cost Price Restaurants at 400 Old Ford Road, and 20 Railway Street. Dinners from 12 till 2 p.m. daily.

Wants.

Subscriptions to the milk and food fund. Doctoring and nursing can help little if mothers and children are unable to obtain the nourishment that is ordered.

New laid eggs, barley, glaxo, virol, for invalids, medicine bottles, clothing and shoes for adults and boys and girls of all ages.

For baby, four gowns, four barrows, two flannel bands, twelve napkins, three vests, and a cot blanket; for mother, two nightgowns, woolen shawl, three towels, two sheets, and a pair of pillow cases.

Growing plants, flowers and branches for all our centres and for the L.C.C. schools. We should be grateful to friends who would supply us regularly. We also need vegetables and fruit.

More cupboards are needed at all our centres.

Health Talks for Mothers are held the first and third Fridays in the month at 3 p.m., at the Mothers' Arms.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

ADULT SUFFRAGE.—A review of the existing franchise anomalies with strong arguments for Votes for All. Published by the London Labour Council for Adult Suffrage.

Copies of this pamphlet 1d. each, or 9d. per dozen, postage extra from Hon. Sec., 400 Old Ford Road, E.

FAMILY LIMITATION DOCTRINE. Post free, 1½d. —Malthusian League, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster.

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All Societies are cordially invited to send in notices of forthcoming events for our "What's On" column. Fee, 1d. per word.

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